

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL'S SPECIALTY COURTS AND DOCKETS COMMITTEE

PURPOSE

The Specialty Courts and Dockets will promote and oversee the development, implementation and evaluation of specialty courts and dockets in the courts.

SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

The Committee will ensure the utilization of best practices by specialty courts and special dockets, in areas such as substance abuse, mental health and alcoholism, business and technology, and science and technology. It will monitor and direct the evaluation of the delivery of evidence-based training, technical assistance, research, funding and support for specialty courts and special dockets. The Committee will report on its initiatives and other activities, at least annually, to the Judicial Council.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Nicholas E. Rattal, Chair

NAME	TERM
Hon. George Lipman, <i>Vice-Chair</i> , District Court, Baltimore City	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Patrice E. Lewis, District Court, Prince George's Co.	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Ronald A. Silkworth, Circuit Court, Anne Arundel County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Helen I. Harrington, Circuit Court, Charles County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Michael D. Mason, Circuit Court, Montgomery County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Mark S. Chandlee, Circuit Court, Calvert County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Sean D. Wallace, Circuit Court, Prince George's County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Wayne A. Brooks, District Court, Howard County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Broughton M. Earnest, (<i>Retired</i>)	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Steven I. Platt, (<i>Retired</i>)	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Thomas J. Pryal, District Court, Anne Arundel County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Nancy M. Purpura, Circuit Court, Baltimore County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Gale E. Rasin, (<i>Retired</i>)	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Dana Moylan Wright, Circuit Court, Washington County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Ronald B. Rubin, Circuit Court, Montgomery County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Audrey J.S. Carrion, Circuit Court, Baltimore City	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Norman R. Stone, III, District Court, Baltimore County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Keith A. Baynes, Circuit Court, Cecil County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Hon. Louis A. Becker, III Circuit Court, (<i>Retired</i>)	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Clayton A. Aarons, District Court, Prince George's County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Hon. Kathleen L. Beckstead, Circuit Court, Wicomico County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Judy K. Rupp, Circuit Court, Montgomery County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Susan Braniecki, Circuit Court, Worcester County	January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

Gray Barton, *Staff*

Jennifer Moore, *Staff*

SUBCOMMITTEES

NAME: PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

NATURE AND PURPOSE

This subcommittee encompasses: Adult Circuit Court Drug Court; Juvenile Drug Court; District Court Drug Court; Mental Health Court; Veterans' Court; Re-entry Court; and Truancy Court. The purpose of this subcommittee is to assist these courts in its purview and provide a comprehensive and collaborative approach to dealing with the issues that arise for the participants in these courts. This subcommittee will assist each county in employing best practices, including: providing evidence based training; technical assistance; research; and in identifying funding support to their courts. The subcommittee will be in constant contact with each of the counties and their respective courts to allow for sharing information concerning what works, but also what doesn't work. This subcommittee will maintain its current role of reviewing and commenting on all applications for the creation of new specialty courts in Maryland. This subcommittee will also assume the roles of the Drug Court Oversight Committee and the Mental Health Oversight Committee. The Problem Solving Courts Subcommittee will therefore be responsible for reviewing all statistics and reports from these particular courts to ensure they are remaining up-to-date with the recommended evidence based practices and maintaining proper records.

This subcommittee will also be responsible for providing training to members of the judiciary regarding the topics that fall under this subcommittee's purview. This subcommittee's training will be offered both in collaboration with the Judicial Institute and independent of it. This subcommittee will be well-positioned to administer this training not only to the judiciary, but also to the State's Attorneys' Offices, the Defense Bar, the Health Department, Community Supervision and Law Enforcement. I believe these updates should be provided on a yearly basis.

MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Thomas J. Pryal, Chair

Hon. Mark S. Chandlee
Hon. Wayne A. Brooks
Hon. Broughton M. Earnest, (*Retired*)
Hon. Norman R. Stone, III
Hon. Keith A. Baynes
Hon. Clayton A. Aarons
Hon. Kathleen L. Beckstead

ANTICIPATED WORK PRODUCT

Provide a written report at least once a year to outline proposals and actions.

EXPECTED DURATION

Standing subcommittee with an indefinite duration.

NAME: MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOLISM, AND ADDICTION

NATURE AND PURPOSE

This subcommittee will explore trial court sentencing alternatives for the treatment and rehabilitation of the seriously mental ill and substance-addicted defendants who are not enrolled in the specialty courts. This subcommittee will work closely with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“DHMH”) and other governmental agencies to monitor and provide information regarding both community and residential based treatment. The subcommittee will emphasize reducing the delays in the placement of incompetent and addicted defendants (Rule 8-507) and work closely with their partners in the legislative and executive branches. One goal will be to ensure resources are readily available for more DHMH-compliant probation supervision for the mentally ill and substance-addicted defendants. This subcommittee will work with the Judicial Institute to provide training in this area.

MEMBERSHIP

Hon. George Lipman, Chair

Hon. Patrice E. Lewis
Hon. Ronald A. Silkworth
Hon. Helen I. Harrington
Hon. Nancy M. Purpura
Hon. Gale E. Rasin, *(Retired)*
Hon. Dana Moylan Wright
Hon. Louis A. Becker, *(Retired)*

ANTICIPATED WORK PRODUCT

Provide a written report at least once a year to outline proposals and actions.

EXPECTED DURATION

This subcommittee should be indefinite in duration as these issues persistently plague our court system and involve ever-changing challenges each year.

NAME: BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CASE MANAGEMENT

NATURE AND PURPOSE

This subcommittee will deal with the issues generated by the Business and Technology Specialty Docket, to include: reviewing of the forms; using Rule 16-205 to promote consistency within the State regarding the categorization of a case as a business and technology case; providing training in this area to judges; and formulating recommendations on the management of complicated discovery and scientific issues that arise in business and technology cases. This subcommittee will provide local jurisdictions with updated information to ensure scientific-based best practices are utilized. This subcommittee will also recommend the training of more judges to qualify them to handle these complicated types of litigation. It is apparent that there are currently too

few judges who are qualified to handle these cases, as more and more qualified judges retire. In addition, this subcommittee will assist with coordinating the ASTAR Judges, who deal with scientific issues that are interrelated to complicated litigation. Finally, this subcommittee will assist the Judicial Institute in providing new business and technology judge orientation, as well as advanced training for judges who are already familiar with business and technology cases.

MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Sean D. Wallace, Chair

Hon. Michael D. Mason
Hon. Steven I. Platt, *(Retired)*
Hon. Ronald B. Rubin
Hon. Audrey J.S. Carrion

ANTICIPATED WORK PRODUCT

Provide a written report at least once a year to outline proposals and actions.

EXPECTED DURATION

Standing subcommittee with an indefinite duration.

WORKGROUPS

NAME: **WORKGROUP ON LEGISLATION**

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Provide feedback to the Legislative Committee on proposed legislation relevant to the Specialty Courts and Dockets Committee issue areas.

MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Nicholas E. Rattal, Chair

Hon. George D. Lipman
Hon. Sean D. Wallace
Hon. Thomas J. Pryal

ANTICIPATED WORK PRODUCT

Provide feedback to the Legislative Committee on relevant legislation.

EXPECTED DURATION

Ninety days (January – April)